

In the Claims

- Claim 1 (original): A windshield washer system for an automotive vehicle, comprising:
- a reservoir for holding windshield washer fluid;
 - an applicator system for furnishing washer fluid from the reservoir to an exterior surface of a vehicle; and
 - a heat transfer system for recovering heat from a braking system of the vehicle and for conveying the recovered heat to the washer fluid contained within the reservoir.
- Claim 2 (original): A windshield washer system according to Claim 1, wherein said applicator system furnishes washer fluid to a windshield.
- Claim 3 (original): A windshield washer system according to Claim 1, wherein said windshield washer fluid is water based.
- Claim 4 (original): A windshield washer system according to Claim 1, wherein said windshield washer fluid is neat water.
- Claim 5 (original): A windshield washer system according to Claim 1, wherein said braking system comprises a friction braking system.
- Claim 6 (original): A windshield washer system according to Claim 5, wherein said friction braking system comprises a brake caliper adapted to engage a brake rotor, with said heat transfer system circulating a fluid through the caliper to recover heat from the caliper and to transfer the recovered heat to the windshield washer fluid reservoir.
- Claim 7 (original): A windshield washer system according to Claim 1, wherein said braking system comprises a regenerative braking system of an electrodrive vehicle.

Claim 8 (original): A windshield washer system according to Claim 1, wherein said braking system comprises a regenerative braking system of an electrodrive vehicle having at least one traction motor, with said heat transfer system circulating a fluid through the traction motor to recover heat from the traction motor and to transfer the recovered heat to the windshield washer fluid reservoir.

Claim 9 (original): A windshield washer system according to Claim 1, further comprising a heat exchanger for transferring heat from engine coolant to washer fluid within said reservoir.

Claim 10 (original): A windshield system for a motor vehicle, comprising:

- a heated windshield;
- a reservoir for holding windshield washer fluid;
- an applicator system for furnishing washer fluid from the reservoir to an exterior surface of the windshield; and
- a heat transfer system for recovering heat from a braking system of the vehicle and for conveying the recovered heat to fluid contained within the reservoir.

Claim 11 (original): A windshield system according to Claim 10, further comprising a heat exchanger for transferring heat from engine coolant to washer fluid within said reservoir.

Claim 12 (original): A method for providing heated washer fluid to the vision unit of an automotive vehicle, comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a supply of washer fluid within a reservoir;
- recovering heat from a braking system of the vehicle and conveying the recovered heat to the washer fluid within the reservoir;
- furnishing heated fluid from the reservoir to the windshield.

Claims 13 (Currently amended): A method according to Claim 12, further comprising the step of heating the fluid within the reservoir with a heat exchanger having engine coolant circulating therethrough.